Who Owns the Learning? We Do!

STUDENTS AS GLOBAL LEADERS, COLLABORATORS AND CONFERENCE PLANNERS

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Students Own The Learning

- They become problem-solvers
- They develop a growth mindset
- They learn project management
- They develop iterative thinking
- They learn to think outside the box
- They become explorers
- They become systems thinkers
- They are ready for the global creative economy
- They are more creative
- They view mistakes as learning opportunities
- They are self-directed

What happens when students own their learning?
Students as Conference Planners
WE PLANNED A STUDENT SUMMIT THAT FOCUSED ON FEMINISM AND GENDER EQUALITY
Why a WOW Student Summit?

- With the club expanding every year, students wanted to take conversations “outside” the lunchtime meeting time.
- In an increasingly globalized world, WOW students wanted to reach out to students from other schools.
- During a Presidential election year, WOW students wanted to make their voices heard and establish themselves as activists, even if they were unable to vote.
- WOW students wanted to be inspired by other women’s stories!
Meetings with club moderator and dean of students began summer 2016

Students employed personal connections and alumnae resources to begin inviting speakers

Weekly meetings of WOW club leaders with moderator and dean began fall 2016

WOW Co-Presidents launched a website, researched speaker bios, and planned publicity campaign

WOW students planned the day’s structure, designed a program, and devised activities
The Summit

- WOW student responsibilities: shifts at the registration table; greeting and escorting speakers; and serving as “floaters” who filled in session audiences as needed
- Keynote speakers: Nobel Peace Prize Winner Leymah Gbowee; former Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger; former New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn; and documentarian Abigail Disney
- Approximately 80 attendees
Success and Challenges

- Creating dialogue with those beyond the doors of Marymount
- Students felt inspired and empowered both by what they heard at the Summit—and by what they accomplished
- Communication and publicity need to happen earlier and more often
- Tweak the format → a fall-off in attendance after lunch and too many concurrent sessions meant some panels were undersubscribed
WE PLANNED A VIRTUAL MEETING ON TECHNOLOGY WITH A SMALL NETWORK OF SCHOOLS.
The Beginning

- January 2014
- Meeting with Steve Hargadon and Lucy Gray
- Expanding the scope of our “conference”
- Global scope
- Student focus
The 2017 Student Technology Conference provides an international forum for the presentation, discussion and sharing of educational technology in schools and other academic settings. This conference, by students and for all, is committed to:

- Fostering a better understanding of how students use technology in education and to engage students, teachers and administrators in a conversation about technology.
- Assisting teachers and administrators in understanding how students use technology both in and out of the classroom.
- Strengthening the relationship between students, teachers and administrators about technology in the curriculum.
Strands

- Strand 1: Making, Design and Innovation
- Strand 2: Technology in Schools – Projects and Collaborations
- Strand 3: Educational Technology Tools
- Strand 4: Students and Social Media
- Strand 5: Entrepreneurship
- Strand 6: Tech and Social Justice
Planning

- Biweekly Conference Calls
- Committee Assignments
- Decisions on keynote speakers
- Collaborative approach to presentation acceptances, promotion
- Social media strategy
- Student presentations
Conference Funding

- Total funding: $15,000
- Supports conference infrastructure
- Crowdsourcing
- GoFundMe + Kickstarter
- Partners for public relations
The Conference - 2017

- Student STEM + Entrepreneurship Conference
- March 4, 2017
- 9 AM to 9 PM EST
- 4 student keynotes
- 24 student presentations
- Attendees from US, Australia, Portugal, Mali, Pakistan, Chile, Canada, Germany, England
Successes and Challenges

- Partner schools
- Securing speakers and presenters
- Fundraising
- The disconnect
- Over four hundred attendees each year!
@ Marymount

Women in Our World Summit
Pioneering trendsetters/Young changemakers

November 18, 2017
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM
Marymount School of New York

TEDx
YOUTH

MARYMOUNT SCHOOL
MARCH 3, 2018 • 8:30 AM TO 3:30 PM
FOCUSING ON WOMEN AND STEM
Propose a Session
YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, WE HAVE ANSWERS!
Facilitator Information

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